

Dr. A. N. Tucker has visited Uganda and has called a meeting of representatives of teachers, administrators, and others to decide on a method of writing their own language. The need for an 'authorized' consistent orthography has long been recognized, and its achievement will be a vital factor in the literary development of the country.

Institute of Race Relations for East Africa

A MOVEMENT to establish an Institute of Race Relations for East Africa was inaugurated at a large meeting representative of the African, European, and Indian populations, held at Nairobi on 8 August 1946. The meeting was convened at the request of H.E. the Governor. Similar meetings were held at Mombasa and Dar es Salaam, and were addressed by Mr. Rheinalt Jones (Director of South African Institute of Race Relations) and Mrs. Hellmann.

West African Institute of Industries, Arts, and Social Sciences

THE West African Institute was founded in 1943 with the dual purpose of the investigation and development of local crafts and industries in the light of modern European experience and technique, and the investigation of local culture, social structure, and economic conditions, with special reference to the effects of contact with Western Civilization. Under the guidance of the Institute's enthusiastic director, Mr. H. V. Meyerowitz, a good beginning was made, and valuable research work was done in the study of African Arts and Crafts. Unfortunately, owing to the war and to the death of Mr. Meyerowitz, the activities of the Institute declined. But the importance of the work begun there was such that it was determined to revive it at the earliest opportunity. The West African Council decided that an investigator should be appointed to examine on the spot the technological and sociological research questions connected with the revival of the Institute, and Mr. Henry Morris, Director of Education to the Cambridgeshire County Council, has visited West Africa for this purpose. Mr. Morris, who is well known for his pioneer work in connexion with the village colleges of Cambridgeshire, will make recommendations to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the organization of sociological and technical research and how these activities may be fitted into the general organization of higher education in West Africa.

*Report of Native Production and Trade Commission—Southern Rhodesia*¹

THE Commission was appointed in April 1944, with the following terms of reference:

1. Production and marketing of all commodities (whether consisting of livestock, raw agricultural or mineral products, or manufactured or processed articles) produced by natives.
2. The economic or other benefits to be derived by the natives:
 - (a) from the adoption of co-operative methods of buying and selling both in and outside the native reserves and areas, or of other methods different from those now in use; and
 - (b) from the establishment of native industries in respect of either existing or new commodities.
3. The desirability of establishing central marketing boards to ensure orderly marketing of native products.
4. The continuation, extension, or abandonment of the system of barter now practised by many natives and the substitution or parallel development of the European method of buying and selling for money.

The report, which is a valuable document, demonstrates the thoroughness with which the Commission undertook this work. Primitive Native agriculture was found to be haphazard and wasteful and the acre return extremely poor. New methods first introduced in 1927 by the Native Agricultural Department are regarded as excellent, but the response

¹ Government Printer, Salisbury, 1945. Pp. 107. 4s. 3d.

on the part of Natives very disappointing. A major cause of the failure is considered to be a lack of Native leadership and the consequent want of discipline and sense of responsibility. Another major cause is the absence of good husbandry conditions. Other causes are lack of education, poor health, bad roads and communications, inadequate transport, and unsatisfactory markets and prices. The lack of Native leadership was found to be due primarily to the breakdown of the authority of chiefs. Character and personality are essential in chiefs, but education is becoming increasingly important. The Commission recommends drastic changes in the appointment of chiefs and measures to increase their authority and prestige. A permanent Native Affairs Commission is recommended, also a survey of the Native Affairs Department and regrouping of districts.

The reserves are reported to be seriously overstocked. Native cattle have increased, but seriously deteriorated in quality. Many recommendations are made for destocking the Reserves and restoring depleted pastures. These include the organized culling of all Native herds; limitation of the number of cattle owned by individual families; the restriction of *lobola* by legislation; the paddocking of reserves; systematic pasture improvement; acceleration of measures to increase water-supplies; and the introduction of a Good Husbandry Act. The importance of adequate transport and communications is stressed, and useful recommendations cover the co-ordination of road construction and the use of transport.

Dealing with co-operation for Natives, the Commission found that Native economic co-operation had not yet reached the experimentation stage, and Natives had not understood its implications. Producer co-operative concerns should be confined to small societies arranging facilities for the purchase of agricultural requirements, organization of transport, and pooling of crops for delivery. Comprehensive controlled organizations could not be successfully conducted by Natives. Experiments in the establishment of consumer co-operatives are justified and should be begun in the urban areas and, if successful, extended to rural areas. Collective agriculture would solve many difficulties of Natives. The Commission recommends the introduction of legislation to provide for the registration of Native co-operative agricultural societies, Native co-operative trading societies, and Native mutual work societies. It is significant that since the publication of the report an official of the Native Affairs Department has been allocated for the study of co-operation and has left on a tour of African Colonies and beyond to study co-operation.

The marketing of all Native products except maize, cattle, hides, and skins was found by the Commission to be chaotic and the causes of this are set out as bad road communications, lack of transport, lack of buyers, variable prices, improper buying methods, disregard of grades, and speculation. The establishment of a Native production and marketing board is considered essential to bring order out of chaos.

In examining the Kaffir Truck Trade (Native trade) the Commission found there was a need for wholesale kaffir truck warehouses in the Colony. The profits of these businesses are high, but Native wholesale co-operative societies will have no prospect of success in competition with them while there are so few Native traders. Natives must become established in the retail trade before attempting to compete in the wholesale trade. Natives are adapted for Native trading in Reserves and Purchase Areas and should eventually be able to control it, though they require commercial training and greater business integrity. Malpractices are facilitated by the peculiar conditions of the trade, but Native traders are just as much at fault as Europeans or Asiatic traders. The Commission recommended that Native applicants, if trained, should have preference for store sites in Reserves and Native Purchase Areas; trading to be on a cash basis. Barter between licensed traders and Natives to be stopped, but barter between Native and Native to be left alone.

The Commission found that owing to the large capital and technical knowledge required, and the uneconomic situation of nearly all the Reserves and Purchase Areas, secondary

industries in these areas are likely for many years to be unsuitable for investment of Native capital. The establishment of Native towns in Reserves and Purchase Areas was considered to be a development which could not be hastened.

PERCY IBBOTSON

The Outlook for Anthropology

PROFESSOR DARYLL FORDE, Director of the International African Institute, in his inaugural lecture as Professor of Anthropology at University College, London, took as his subject 'The Outlook for Anthropology'. He suggested that the war, though it had impeded anthropological study and the discussion and interchange of ideas, had at the same time revealed more clearly and urgently the problems to be studied; and anthropologists, at this juncture, should ask themselves what were to be the methods and aim of their studies in the future. Professor Forde referred to the emergence of anthropology as a distinct study in the nineteenth century, as a result of the impact of biological science on the study of the humanities. The early anthropologists had formulated a somewhat grandiose definition of their province, as comprising the study of man, his origins, his behaviour, his various cultures, and the interaction between them. The great vision and the wide objective of these times seemed remote to-day and very far from fulfilment, in spite of the great increase in our knowledge. The intensification of interest and the elaboration of technique had, in fact, resulted in increased specialization and a narrower outlook. Could anthropology resume its role as an integrative study? Professor Forde traced the influence of genetics and comparative anatomy on the study of man's physical and cultural variations and suggested that the physiological factors underlying differences of behaviour were a fruitful subject of study, though not, of course, without reference to the numerous other factors—ecological and social—which were involved. He deprecated any sweeping condemnation of the historical approach and the antagonism which was sometimes assumed between history and science. Historical interpretation of anthropological data was necessary for an understanding of the behaviour of living peoples. Anthropology to-day, he suggested, was tending to develop along two lines—the psychological and the sociological. The former method of approach sought to study the values and the motives underlying man's behaviour, ritual activities, and symbolism; the latter studied behaviour patterns in their social context as expressed in social structure and organization. By a detailed analysis of cultures and their inter-relations anthropology endeavoured to discover processes of wide generality. Such analyses were likely to prove of practical value, not only in relation to problems arising from the impact of western culture on colonial peoples, but also in relation to the tensions which were being revealed in our own society.

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THE Report of the Governing Body for the year ending July 1946 gives a record of expanding activity in all branches of study. The report of the African department notes that the session 1945-6 has been the busiest in the history of the department, the number of students reaching 128. A certain number of these have taken short courses in preparation for work as government officials or on land settlement schemes; others have gone to Africa on special research projects, and there have been also a number of social workers. The first group of African students finished their two-year course this session and are returning to their own country to take up work for which their training in London has been a preparation; the most important aspect of this training is considered to be the scientific investigation of their own language, which should lead to a more intelligent teaching of the vernacular.

In June 1947 a number of Colonial Service Probationers are expected to come to the school for intensive language training, and a considerable part of the work of the staff has been concerned with the preparation of these courses. Several African assistants have been recruited for this work.